

Invitation to the Most Important Global Event in Middle Eastern Studies in 2018!

Fifth World Congress for Middle Eastern Studies (WOCMES-5) Three Cultures Foundation of the Mediterranean, Seville, Spain, 16-20 July 2018

The World Congress seeks to address questions, exchange and explore information on the Middle East in the broadest sense. The invitation is aimed at scholars, researchers, educators, students, professionals and other groups interested in studies on North Africa, Middle East, Muslim states of Central Asia as well as other regions of the world which are directly or indirectly affected by affairs in these areas.

After the highly successful experiences of the four previous WOCMES meetings held in Mainz (Germany) 2002, Amman (Jordan) 2006, Barcelona (Spain) 2010, and Ankara (Turkey) 2014, WOCMES-5 in Seville will unite experts from all over the world, to exchange new ideas, to strengthen and build regional and global networks for joint research.

The hosting Three Cultures Foundation of the Mediterranean in Seville - heart of Andalusia and cradle of Al Andalus where Muslims, Christians and Jews lived together in a missed period of coexistence and mutual understanding - will undoubtedly be an exciting setting to meet and discuss Middle Eastern Studies.

Objectives

The overall objective of the Congress is to offer the possibility to share and exchange research, experiences and ideas between more than 2000 interdisciplinary experts from all branches of the humanities, social sciences and related disciplines, from all over the world. In this respect, WOCMES-5 particularly wishes to foster the participation of experts from different regions of the world and to facilitate their engagement within new or existing networks of research and exchange.

WOCMES-5 will be taking place at a time during which political and economic changes have been witnessed in the region since the last Congress in Ankara. Issues in relation to such important political and economic changes are certainly intriguing to all researchers and specialists of the region from within and without. The contributions by participants from many different disciplines will no doubt raise debates and shed new light on many topics concerning the daily lives of people in the region.

WOCMES-5 will attract the attention of local and international media as well as actors and institutions in political, economic and cultural spheres who are expected to attend the Congress and disseminate and promote the exchange of ideas far beyond academic circles.

A large number of associations, research centers, universities, international organizations and other institutions from all over the world have already started to organize meetings, exhibitions, symposia, plenary sessions, panels, roundtables and poster presentations.

Cultural and artistic works on different aspects of the region will also be placed under the spotlight, thanks to a variety of exhibitions; a film festival with roundtable discussions and a book fair attended by booksellers, publishers and authors; as well as a selection of artistic events.

Finally, WOCMES-5 will be a great opportunity for all participants to visit Seville with its outstanding monuments featuring in the UNESCO's World Heritage List: the Cathedral, Alcázar and Archivo de Indias. Apart from these monuments, the variety and quality of more than 300 buildings that have been declared to be of Cultural Interest make Seville a sightseeing destination of the utmost importance. In addition, trips to Cordoba and Granada offer the chances to visit the most important and well-kept examples of Al-Andalus' legacy and yet living parts of our heritage: Cordoba's Great Mosque-Cathedral and Granada's Alhambra, World Heritage Sites as well.

The conference's working languages are English and French.

Deadlines

- Institutions planning to hold major events like conferences, symposia and exhibitions under the umbrella of WOCMES-5 are kindly requested to inform the WOCMES Secretariat before 9 December 2017.

- Deadline for the registration of panels and papers, roundtables and poster presentations is **9 December 2017** (see www.tresculturas.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/cfp.pdf)

- Further information: <http://www.tresculturas.org/wocmes18/>

Contact

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